

Message Text

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43 L

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 PRS-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /098 W

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R 191253Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9117

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1297

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VT, PO, ZA

SUBJ: VATICAN'S DISCREET CONTACTS WITH LISBON ON PORTUGUESE
TERRITORIES

REF: ROME 6029

1. APOSTOLIC PRO NUNCIO (ANGELONI) CALLED ON AMBASSADOR
JULY 17 TO SAY HE HAD JUST NOTIFIED PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S
SPECIAL ASSISTANT (MARK CHONA) ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM HOLY
SEE OF VATICAN RESPONSIVENESS TO EARLIER ZAMBIAN REQUEST
FOR APPROACHES TO PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT ON QUESTION OF
TERRITORIES.

2. ANGELONI TOLD CHONA PAPACY SHARES IN SUFFERING
OF SOUTHERN AFRICA; HOPES ZAMBIA WILL CONTINUE TO BE A
FORCE FOR PEACE IN THE AREA; AND ASSURES GRZ THAT VATICAN
IS MAKING "DISCREET CONTACTS WITH PARTIES CONCERNED,
ESPECIALLY LISBON GOVERNMENT." PRO NUNCIO DESCRIBED
POPE PAUL AS COURAGEOUS IN MATTERS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE.
REPORTED CHONA WELL SATISFIED WITH VATICAN RESPONSE
AND HOPEFUL OF EXPRESSING GRZ GRATITUDE DIRECTLY TO POPE
PAUL SOON.

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3. ANGELONI WAS VERY MUCH STRUCK WITH NEW SELF-CONFIDENCE

AND IMPOSING PRESENCE OF CHONA, AS IF SOME CHANGE IN HIS STATUS MIGHT BE IN OFFING. WE BOTH SPECULATED ON WHETHER CHONA MIGHT NOT BE MARKED FOR FOREIGN MINISTER IN NEW CABINET TO BE FORMED FOLLOWING ELECTIONS IN EARLY OR MID-NOVEMBER, ESPECIALLY AS FOREIGN MINISTER MUDENDA HAS BEGUN TO GIVE HINTS OF WANTING TO RETURN TO PRIVATE LIFE OR AT LEAST HOLD A NON-REMUNERATIVE GOVERNMENT JOB UNDER THE NEW LEADERSHIP CODE. WILKOWSKI

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